

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 602

By Dickerson

A RESOLUTION to recognize Arlene Martin-Norman on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Arlene Martin-Norman is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for twenty-one years as a loyal and dedicated public servant of the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, and she will soon be taking a much deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, a native of Humboldt, Arlene Martin-Norman attended the University of Tennessee at Martin, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications and Political Science from the University of Wisconsin at Parkside, earned a Master of Science degree in Public Service Management from Cumberland University, and received certification as a social counselor from the University of Tennessee School of Social Work; and

WHEREAS, during her years of service in promoting child welfare and safety, Arlene Martin-Norman investigated reports of child maltreatment, was a core participant in the Child Protective Investigative Teams of Davidson County, and served as an expert witness in judicial proceedings. She developed and designed instruments for monitoring and rating program compliance with applicable standards and procedures and also served as a subject matter expert on many aspects of the department's diverse operations; and

WHEREAS, perhaps her greatest impact in the realm of child safety and response to maltreatment has come from her ardent promotion of evidence-based practices and techniques of prevention and intervention within her department and among the diverse professionals on

multi-disciplinary teams with which she has worked. Her service has, indeed, made Tennessee a safer and better place for children and families; and

WHEREAS, Arlene Martin-Norman is an active and important part of her community, participating in numerous worthy organizations, including serving as a Tennessee Delta Unit Parliamentarian, a member of the Cumberland University Alumni, a member of the American Association of University Women, a member of the executive committee of the local NAACP, and a volunteer for United Way and the Davidson County Sheriff's Department. She also served on the executive board of directors of the Tennessee State Employees Association and was a member of the Nashville Entrepreneur Center and the Urban League of Middle Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Arlene Martin-Norman is a devout member of Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, Arlene Martin-Norman exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, she is the mother of Nneka Norman-Gordon, Sarah Lueckeman, and Abbrissola Shull, and the grandmother of Thomas Gordon IV, Keely and Lexie Lueckeman, and Daniel Harrison Shull; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Arlene Martin-Norman has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues; and

WHEREAS, she has honorably and dutifully served the State of Tennessee and its children for more than two decades, and it is fitting that she should be recognized by this legislative body at this time; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Arlene Martin-Norman our appreciation for her years of service with the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, and we offer our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.